(b) whether there is resentment among the farmers despite the increase in support price of wheat;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The targets and production during 1996-97 are given as below:

(Million tonnes)

	Target	Production
Foodgrains	193.50	198.17
Oilseeds	23.00	24.46
Sugarcane	270.00	270.97
Cotton*	13.00	14.53
Jute & Mesta**	9.00	10.99

* Million bales of 170 kgs. each.

** Million bales of 180 kgs. each

(b) No. Sir. The farmers have been satisfied by and large with the procurement price of Rs. 475 including the Bonus of Rs. 60 per quintal as reflected by the higher procurement of 9.3 million tonnes during the crop year 1996-97 as compared to 8.2 million tonnes last year.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Vacant Posts of Hindi Language

3166. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of posts pertaining to official language Hindi have been lying vacant in some Ministries/ Departments of the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof, Ministry-wise and Department-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to fill up these vacant posts without any delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Posts pertaining to Official Language Hindi in the Ministries/Deptts. are filled up mainly from the officers of Central Secretariat Official Language service. At present some posts of this service are lying vacant.

(b) A statement is attached.

(c) All the posts of Junior Translators in the Central Sectt. Official Language service are filled up by the candidates provided by Staff Selection Commission. For filling up the vacancies for the year 1996-97 in this category, dossiers of candidates, who qualified the examination, are being sent by the Commission, the nomination of such candidates are being made by the Deptt. of Official Language to fill up the vacant posts of Junior Translators in various Ministries/Deptts. 50% of the vacant post of Asst. Director (O.L.) are filled up through U.P.S.C. and remaining 50% are filled up by promotion. All the vacant posts at present available in this category are to be filled up through Direct recruitment by U.P.S.C. for which two proposals have been sent to U.P.S.C. one in may 1995 and other in June 1996 respectively. The Commission in the process of selection of persons for the posts of Asstt. Director (O.L.) The Government is expecting recommendation in this regard shortly. Action is being taken to fill up one vacancy of Deputy Director and two posts of Sr. Translators.

Statement

List of Vacant Posts in various categories in various Ministries/Deptts. included in the Central Secretariat Official Language Services Cadre

Sl. No.	Name of Office	Director (OL)	Deputy Director (OL)	Asstt. Director (OL)	Sr. Translator	Junior Translator
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Ministry of Commerce	—	—	1	—	2
2.	Deptt. of Tele-Communication	—	—	1	—	1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Deptt. of Eco. Affairs	—		1	—	2
4.	Deptt. of Revenue	—	—	1	—	—
5.	Intelligence Bureau	—	—	1	—	9
6.	C.I.S.F.	—	—	1	—	1
7.	National Archives	—	—	1	—	1
8.	Deptt. of Education	—	—	2	—	3
9.	Deptt. of Industrial Development	—	—	1	—	2
10.	Deptt. of Science & Industrial Research	—	—	1	—	1
11.	Directorate Gen. of Shipping	—	—	1	1	—
12.	C.P.W.D.	—	—	3	—	9
13.	Ministry of Welfare	—	—	1	—	—
14.	Election Commission	—	1	1	—	3
15.	Deptt. of Rural Employment & Development	—	—	—	—	1
16.	Deptt. of Fertilizer	—	—	—	—	1
17.	Fertilizer Industry Coordination Committee	—	—	—	—	1
18.	Economic & Statistical Directorate	—	—	—	—	1
19.	Directorate of Sugar	—	—	—	—	1
20.	Directorate General of Foreign Trade	—	—	—	—	1
21.	D.G.S. & D.	—	—	—	—	2
22.	Deptt. of Post	—	—	—	—	2
23.	Ministry of Defence (Main)	—	—	—	—	2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24.	Ministry of Defence (Finance Division)	—	—	—	—	1
25.	Deptt. of Coal	—	—	—	—	1
26.	Ministry of Power	—	—	—	—	1
27.	Central Electricity Authority	—	—	—	—	1
28.	Ministry of Environment & Forests	—	—	—	—	2
29.	Date. of National River Conservation	—	—	—	—	1
30.	Deptt. of Expenditure	—	—	—	—	1
31.	Ministry of Health & Family Planning	—	—	—	—	3
32.	Ministry of Home Affairs (Main)	—	—	—	—	2
33.	Directorate General of B.S.F.	—	—	—	—	2
34.	Deptt. of Culture	—	—	—	—	1
35.	Deptt. of Women & Child Development	—	—	—	—	1
36.	Deptt. of Company Affairs	—	—	—	—	1
37.	Development Commissioner (Small Scale Industry)	—	—	—	—	2
38.	Deptt. of Heavy Industries	—	—	—	—	1
39.	Ministry of Information & Broadcasting	—	—	—	—	1
40.	Directorate Gen. of Akashvani	—	—	—	—	1
41.	Directorate General of Doordarshan	—	—	—	—	2
42	P.I.B	—	—	—	—	2
43	Office of the Registrar of Newspapers	—	—	—	—	2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
44.	Ministry of Labour	—	—	—	—	1
45.	Directorate General of Employment and Training	—	—	—	—	2
46.	Office of the Chief Labour Commissioner	—	—	—	—	1
47.	Deptt. of Tourism	—	—	—	—	2
48.	Deptt. of Personnel & Training	—	—	—	—	2
49.	C.B.I.	—	—	—	—	7
50.	I.S.T.M.	—	—	—	—	1
51.	Ministry of Programme Implementation	—	—	—	—	1
52.	Deptt. of Statistics	—	—	—	1	1
53.	Deptt. of Science & Technology	—	—	—	—	1
54.	Deptt. of Eco. Affairs (Banking Div.)	—	—	—	—	2
55.	Deptt. of Biotechnology	—	—	—	—	1
56.	Directorate Gen. of Civil Aviation	—	—	—	—	1
57.	Deptt. of Civil Aviation	—	—	—	—	1
58.	Deptt. of Urban Employment & Development	—	—	—	—	3
59.	Directorate of Estate	—	—	—	—	1
60.	Ministry of Textiles	—	—	—	—	1
61.	Ministry of Water Resources	—	—	—	—	1
62.	Central Water Commission	—	—	—	—	1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
63.	Planning Commission	—	—	—	—	4
64.	U.P.S.C.	—	—	—	—	1
65.	Deptt. of Legislative	—	—	—	—	1
66.	Deptt. of Legal Affairs	—	—	—	—	1
67.	Deptt. of Official Language	—	—	—	—	1
68.	Deptt. of Animal Husbandry & Dairy	—	—	—	—	1
69.	Deptt. of Indian Medicine System & Homoeopathy	—	—	—	—	1

[English]

Rhino Horns

3167. SHRI K.S. RAYUDU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rhino horns worth thousands of crores of rupees are lying in the forest treasury of Assam;

(b) if so, the approximate sale value thereof;

(c) the reasons for not selling them off and utilise the funds collected thereby for the developmental purposes; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) The State Government of Assam have reported that 1044 pieces of rhino horn weighing 672.581 kg. are deposited in different treasuries of the State.

(b) Trade in rhino horns is prohibited. However, the price of rhino horn is believed to be between Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 5 lakh per kg. in illegal transactions within the country and upto Rs. 15 lakhs in the international markets.

(c) and (d) Trade in rhino horns is banned in the country under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and internationally under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna & Flora (CITES).

[Translation]

Damodar River

3168. SHRI MAHABIR LAL BISHVAKARMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to clean Damodar river and include it under National River Conservation plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Pollution abatement of river Damodar in Bihar and West Bengal has been included under the National River Conservation Plan. Under this component, pollution abatement works in 8 towns of Bihar and 4 towns of West Bengal have been approved at an estimated cost of Rs. 23.37 crores. Town-wise and activity-wise cost of schemes is given in the Statement attached. Preparatory work on the plan has begun.